

**House Resolution**

**No. 35**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Harkey**

August 17, 2010

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House Resolution No. 35—Relative to National Surgical Technologist Week.

1 WHEREAS, The Association of Surgical Technologists was  
2 officially created as a nonprofit educational association in 1969  
3 with the support of the Association of periOperative Registered  
4 Nurses, the American College of Surgeons, and the American  
5 Hospital Association; and

6 WHEREAS, Surgical technologists are responsible for the  
7 environmental disinfection, safety, and efficiency of the operating  
8 room, and their knowledge and experience with aseptic surgical  
9 technique qualifies them for a role of importance in the surgical  
10 suite; and

11 WHEREAS, The surgical technology profession has grown to  
12 meet the continuing demand for well-educated, highly-skilled, and  
13 versatile individuals to work with surgeons and other skilled  
14 professionals to deliver the highest possible level of patient care;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Surgical technologists are skilled professionals  
17 uniquely prepared for, and proud of their role on, surgical teams  
18 in hospitals across the country and in California, where an  
19 estimated 5,000 surgical technologists, of the nearly 90,000 surgical  
20 technologists nationally, are employed; and

21 WHEREAS, Approximately 1,400 California surgical  
22 technologists hold certification in their profession from the two

1 major certifying organizations for surgical technologists in the  
2 United States; and

3 WHEREAS, Based on scientific evidence, the key role that  
4 health care personnel in surgical settings can play by taking specific  
5 steps to prevent surgical site infections for some operations has  
6 been underscored by both the National Surgical Infection  
7 Prevention Project and reported in The Joint Commission's 2007  
8 Annual Report on Quality and Safety; and

9 WHEREAS, The Joint Commission's 2007 Annual Report on  
10 Quality and Safety reported that surgical site infections were the  
11 second most common hospital-acquired infections in the United  
12 States; and

13 WHEREAS, It is a primary function of surgical technologists  
14 and surgical assistants with proper education, training, and skills  
15 to administer patient care of the highest quality; now, therefore,  
16 be it

17 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the  
18 Assembly recognizes and declares the week of September 19  
19 through 25, 2010, as National Surgical Technologist Week in  
20 California; and be it further

21 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
22 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.